

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 17 and 19 are pending in this application, with claims 17 and 19 being independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as herein amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claims 11-13, 15-16, 18, and 22 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 17 and 19 were found to be allowable. Since only allowable claims now remain in the application, the application is deemed to be in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is solicited.

Should the Examiner have any comments, questions, suggestions, or objections, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned in order to facilitate reaching a resolution of any outstanding issues.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
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